

Ashton Dennis

1/25/2021

1 (1)

1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2 FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

3 MICHAEL PARGA, RICHARD FELTZ,
4 TARA O'DONLEY, and CHRISTOPHER
5 WOOD, on behalf of themselves
and all others similarly
situated,

6 Plaintiffs,

7 -vs- Case No. 18-CV-0298-CVE-JFJ

8 BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
9 OF THE COUNTY OF TULSA, VIC
REGALADO, Tulsa County Sheriff,
in his official capacity;
10 TERRY H. BITTING, TAMMY BRUCE,
MARTHA RUPP CARTER, STEPHEN R.
11 CLARK, THERESA DREILING, OWEN
EVANS, JAMES W. KEELEY, DEBORAH
12 LUDI LEITCH, J. ANTHONY MILLER,
DAWN MOODY, MILLIE OTEY, KIRSTEN
13 PACE, APRIL SEIBERT, CLIFFORD
SMITH, and SARAH SMITH, in their
14 capacities as Tulsa County Special
Judges; and WILLIAM MUSSEMAN, in his
15 capacity as Tulsa County District
Judge,

16 Defendants.

17

18

19 DEPOSITION OF ASHTON DENNIS

20 TAKEN ON BEHALF OF THE DEFENDANTS

21 ON JANUARY 25, 2021, BEGINNING AT 9:03 A.M.

22 VIA ZOOM

23

24 REPORTED BY: Shannon S. Harwood, CSR, RPR, CRR

25

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	Page 2		Page 4
1 APPEARANCES		1 STIPULATIONS	
2 on behalf of the PLAINTIFFS		2	
3 Ms. Phoebe Kasdin		3 It is hereby stipulated and agreed by and	
4 Ms. Hayley Horowitz		4 between the parties hereto, through their respective	
5 STILL SHE RISES		5 attorneys, that the deposition of ASHTON DENNIS may be	
6 567 E. 36th Street North		6 taken pursuant to agreement and notice and in accordance	
7 Tulsa, OK 74106		7 with the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure on January 25,	
8 918-392-0867		8 2020, via zoom, before Shannon S. Harwood, CSR, RPR,	
9 phoebek@stillshersies.org		9 CRR.	
10 hayleyh@stillshersies.org		10	
11		11	
12 on behalf of the DEFENDANTS, BOARD OF COUNTY		12	
13 COMMISSIONERS OF TULSA COUNTY, VIC REGALADO, TULSA		13	
14 COUNTY SHERIFF		14	
15 Mr. Doug Wilson		15	
16 TULSA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE		16	
17 500 South Denver Avenue		17	
18 Tulsa, OK 74103		18	
19 918-596-4805		19	
20 douglas.wilson@tulsacounty.org		20	
21		21	
22 Ms. Erin Moore		22	
23 Ms. Stefanie Lawson		23	
24 OKLAHOMA ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE		24	
25 313 N.E. 21st Street		25	
26 Oklahoma City, OK 73105			
27 405-521-3921			
28 erin.moore@oag.ok.gov			
29 stefanie.lawson@oag.ok.gov			
30			
31 INDEX	Page 3	1 WHEREUPON,	Page 5
32	PAGE	2 ASHTON DENNIS,	
33 Direct Examination by Ms. Moore	5	3 after having been first duly sworn, deposes and says in	
34 Cross Examination by Mr. Wilson	26	4 reply to questions propounded as follows, to-wit;	
35		5 DIRECT EXAMINATION	
36		6 BY MS. MOORE:	
37		7 Q. Mr. Dennis, can you hear me?	
38		8 A. Yes.	
39		9 Q. Hi. My name is Erin Moore and I'm going to be	
40		10 taking your deposition today. If you can't hear me	
41		11 because of buffering or something, try to indicate that	
42		12 because sometimes there's some lag and things with the	
43		13 computers and I want to make sure you can hear us.	
44		14 Okay?	
45		15 A. Okay.	
46		16 Q. So that's the first thing I want you to do is	
47		17 if there seems to be some technical problem, let us know	
48		18 because I want you to be able to hear me. Yeah, I think	
49		19 you just went into buffering. Is that me or is it on	
50		20 your end?	
51		21 MR. WILSON: I don't think it's you, Erin.	
52		22 MS. MOORE: It's not me? Phoebe?	
53		23 MR. WILSON: Might be now.	
54		24 MS. MOORE: It might be now. Hello?	
55		25 MS. LAWSON: No, they're frozen on my screen	

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1	too.	1	the record.
2	MS. MOORE: Okay. Yeah, Phoebe, we've lost	2	Most of the time, you'll still answer the
3	Mr. Dennis. Can you hear me?	3	question. The only time you will not answer a question
4	MR. WILSON: Are we down a wifi connection.	4	after they object is if they specifically direct you not
5	MS. KASDIN: I can hear you now. I lost you	5	to answer the question, so -- but if you don't
6	too. Let me check his. I'm so sorry. Hold on.	6	understand the question, I need you to tell me, "I don't
7	MS. MOORE: We lost him. He -- he froze	7	understand the question" and I will try to rephrase it
8	first.	8	or work through what you're not understanding so we can
9	THE REPORTER: And, Mr. Wilson, I can barely	9	get to a question and get the information out of you in
10	hear you.	10	a way that you understand and I understand. If you
11	MR. WILSON: Okay. Is that better?	11	answer a question without telling me that you don't
12	THE REPORTER: That's better. Thank you so	12	understand, I'm going to assume you understood the
13	much.	13	question.
14	MR. WILSON: Erin, did we want to enter into	14	Does that make sense?
15	the same stipulations as the other depos?	15	A. Yes.
16	MS. MOORE: Yeah, I guess we do. I mean,	16	Q. Okay. Again, can you hear me okay?
17	since we -- especially since we did that agreement by	17	A. Yes.
18	email yesterday -- that day, so I guess, yeah.	18	Q. All right. Is there anything that is going to
19	MS. HOROWITZ: I mean, I can do this while	19	prevent you today from being able to give truthful and
20	Phoebe is --	20	accurate testimony about what you remember?
21	MS. MOORE: Okay.	21	A. No.
22	MS. HOROWITZ: -- helping get the tech set up.	22	Q. Okay. Have you ever been deposed before?
23	I mean, everything that we've agreed to --	23	A. No.
24	MS. MOORE: Before --	24	Q. Okay. Have you ever testified in a court
25	MS. HOROWITZ: -- by email or otherwise, we	25	proceeding?
	Page 7		Page 9
1	agree applies.	1	A. Yes.
2	MS. MOORE: Okay. All right. That -- that	2	Q. Okay. Where you were under oath like you just
3	works. I figured we were, but just keeping -- keep it	3	were?
4	on the record, so thanks, Doug. Are we back on, Phoebe?	4	A. Yes.
5	Q. (By Mr. Moore) Mr. Dennis can you hear me?	5	Q. Okay. You've done that. Okay. So this is
6	A. Yes, I can hear you.	6	actually just the same as that, but the judge just isn't
7	Q. Okay. So we -- you've seen now what the	7	here. That's -- so think of it that way. It's just
8	technical problems look like, that you freeze up, you	8	like being in front of a judge. What did you testify in
9	can't hear me, so if that happens again or -- or	9	before?
10	something, we'll try to get it resolved, but tell me	10	A. My criminal -- past criminal cases.
11	what you didn't hear when we get it back resolved so I	11	Q. Okay. Have you had any non criminal cases
12	know how to go backwards to get us back where we're	12	that you've testified in, like paternity or car
13	starting where you know what I'm saying.	13	accidents?
14	Does that make sense?	14	A. No.
15	A. Well -- well, you were just into your	15	Q. Okay. Can you tell me your full name?
16	introduction --	16	A. Ashton Lee Dennis.
17	Q. Okay.	17	Q. Okay. And can you spell that for me?
18	A. -- when you cut off.	18	A. A-S-H-T-O-N, Lee, L-E-E, Dennis, D-E-N-N-I-S.
19	Q. All right. So starting again. I'm going to	19	Q. All right. Thank you. And where do you live?
20	be asking you questions. I want -- and with the	20	A. Tulsa.
21	technology issues, wait a couple seconds before you	21	Q. Can you tell me an address?
22	start answering anything. That will allow me to finish	22	A. 2201 North Quannah Avenue.
23	my question, make sure you hear it, and it also gives	23	Q. Okay. And who do you live with?
24	your counsel a chance to interject an objection or	24	A. My sister.
25	something in case they want to preserve something for	25	Q. Your sister. Okay. Do you have any children?

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1	A. I have three.	1	A. I have osteobrosis (sic) and scoliosis.
2	Q. You have three. Okay. And do they have the same mother or do they have multiple mothers?	2	Q. Okay. All right. Can you tell me how much education you've -- or schooling you have completed?
3		3	
4	A. No, they have the same mother.	4	A. High school graduate, 2004.
5	Q. And who -- what's her name?	5	Q. Where did you graduate from?
6	A. Tisha Abdual.	6	A. Broken Arrow High School.
7	Q. Okay. Can you try to spell that for me? I didn't understand.	7	Q. Okay. That's a good school. Did you take any medications?
8		8	
9	A. T-I-S-H-A. Abdual, A-B-D-U-A-L.	9	A. No.
10	Q. Okay. And where does she live?	10	Q. Okay. Do you have any hearing problems?
11	A. Houston, Texas.	11	A. No.
12	Q. Okay. And what's your sister's name?	12	Q. All right. So I don't want to talk about why
13	A. India Dennis.	13	or what happened to get you arrested, so we're going to
14	Q. Okay. Do you have any other siblings?	14	start after you get arrested on December 15th, 2020.
15	A. Yes, I have three other brothers.	15	Okay. Because that's what at issue right now.
16	Q. And what are their names?	16	Do you understand that?
17	A. Nick Dennis, Isaac Dennis and Jeremy Dennis.	17	A. Yes.
18	Q. Okay. Where do they live?	18	Q. Okay. So after you're arrested, what
19	A. Here in Tulsa.	19	happened?
20	Q. Okay. Do you have any grandparents or aunts and uncles or parents?	20	MS. KASDIN: Object to the form of the
21		21	question.
22	A. Grandparents are passed. Mother is passed.	22	Q. (By Ms. Moore) Okay. Did you understand that
23	Father is passed. I do have three aunties that stay	23	question or do I need to rephrase, Mr. Dennis?
24	here in Tulsa.	24	A. I understood.
25	Q. Okay. What are their names?	25	Q. Okay. What physically happened to you after
	Page 11		Page 13
1	A. Patricia, Carolyn -- oh, I don't -- I call my third auntie -- her name is -- I can't remember her first name, just -- we call her babe.	1	you were arrested?
2		2	A. I was transported to the David L. Moss
3		3	Correctional Facility.
4	Q. That's okay. That's okay. I understand, you know, there are names and they're not necessarily their legal names. That's okay. Do you have a cell phone?	4	Q. Okay. And who transported you there?
5		5	A. Tulsa Police Department.
6		6	Q. Okay. And did the Tulsa Police Department
7	A. Yes, I do.	7	tell you anything about what you were charged with or
8	Q. Okay. What kind of cell phone do you have?	8	why you were being booked into the jail?
9	A. The carrier or the phone device?	9	MS. KASDIN: Object to the form of the
10	Q. Both actually.	10	question.
11	A. Well, I'm with Assist Wireless and I have an iPhone 8 Plus.	11	Q. (By Ms. Moore) Did you understand that,
12		12	Mr. Dennis?
13	Q. Okay. Thank you. Do you have a car?	13	A. Yes.
14	A. No, I don't.	14	Q. Okay. What did -- what did Tulsa Police
15	Q. Okay. Do you have access to a car?	15	Department tell you while they were booking you in?
16	A. I mean, through family, yes.	16	A. Allegations of stolen property, stolen car and
17	Q. Okay. Do you currently work?	17	stolen firearm.
18	A. No.	18	Q. Okay. Did they tell you anything about bond
19	Q. Okay. Are you on disability?	19	amounts?
20	A. Yes.	20	A. No, not...
21	Q. Okay. And when were you approved for disability?	21	Q. And that was the Tulsa Police Department did
22		22	not tell you anything?
23	A. Since birth.	23	A. No.
24	Q. Since birth. Okay. And can you describe your disability for me?	24	Q. Okay. All right. So you're -- you're now at
25		25	the jail and you're being booked in. Do you know who is

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1 booking you in?	1 jail?
2 A. Employee for the David L. Moss Correctional	2 A. Went to dress out.
3 Facility.	3 Q. Okay. And what happens in dress out?
4 Q. Okay. And what did they do?	4 A. I took off all my street clothes, what they
5 A. Took pictures. Once the pictures was taken,	5 call them, was handed their inmate clothing and told me
6 they gave me a printout of my charges and my court date,	6 to, I guess, squat or bend over, make sure I didn't have
7 and I was instructed to sit down.	7 any -- anything in my rectum.
8 Q. Did the printout contain information about	8 Q. Okay. All right. So you're dressed out and
9 bond amounts?	9 changed into the jail clothes. What happens next?
10 A. No.	10 A. Took to the quarantine pod.
11 Q. Okay. Were you told about bond amounts at	11 Q. What did they tell you about quarantine pod?
12 booking?	12 A. Nothing. I was instructed the -- they told me
13 A. I asked.	13 what actually cell I was in, which was a handicapped
14 Q. You asked?	14 cell and that was that.
15 A. But they --	15 Q. Did you tell them that you had a handicap
16 Q. Okay. What did they tell you about bond	16 issue?
17 amounts?	17 A. No, I mean, for -- from the eyes can see, I'm
18 A. She just written down what my bond was for the	18 pretty physically -- I mean, they can tell I have
19 charges I was in -- in for.	19 something wrong with me.
20 Q. She wrote it down for you?	20 Q. Okay. Well, I just wanted to make sure I
21 A. Correct.	21 understood why you got put in a handicapped cell. So
22 Q. Okay. And was that on the charge sheet or on	22 they noted your handi -- your disability and your
23 a different piece of paper?	23 handicap?
24 A. On the charges, charge sheet.	24 A. Correct.
25 Q. Were you told about your next court date?	25 Q. Okay. And you're in the quarantine pod. Are
Page 15	
1 A. Yeah, it was listed on the piece of paper	1 you told when they'll come back for you for your next
2 printout.	2 court date?
3 Q. Did they tell you anything else about it?	3 A. No. It was the next day.
4 A. No.	4 Q. Okay. When did they come to get you for your
5 Q. Okay. So you were given the piece of paper	5 next court date? Do you remember the time?
6 and told to go sit in a room?	6 A. Oh, the next morning. About 6, a little bit
7 A. I was in the booking area.	7 after breakfast.
8 Q. In the booking area. Okay. Did you still	8 Q. Okay. So after breakfast. And do they tell
9 have access to your phone?	9 you anything then about the court date?
10 A. No.	10 A. No, the DO woke me up and told me that I had
11 Q. Okay. Did you have access to a phone to make	11 court.
12 calls?	12 Q. Uh-huh. And they -- they came to get you for
13 A. Yes.	13 court and what -- what happened when they came to get
14 Q. Okay. Did you call anyone?	14 you for court?
15 A. Yes, I did.	15 A. Well, I was let go from the pod to the video
16 Q. Who did you call?	16 arraignment or video court and I was instructed --
17 A. I contacted my kids and my bail bondsman.	17 instructed to sit down and wait for the judge.
18 Q. Which bail bondsman did you contact?	18 Q. Okay.
19 A. His name is James Pharr, P-H-A-R-R.	19 A. On a prompter.
20 Q. Okay. And how long were you in booking or the	20 Q. Did anyone tell you this was a bond hearing?
21 booking area, sorry?	21 A. No.
22 A. Probably like an hour or two maybe.	22 Q. Were there any signs telling you what -- what
23 Q. Okay. Did you make any other phone calls?	23 kind of hearing you could have?
24 A. No.	24 A. No.
25 Q. Okay. After booking, where did you go in the	25 Q. Okay. Were there any jail personnel in the

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1 video courtroom?	1 A. Yes.
2 A. Yes.	2 Q. Okay.
3 Q. Did they say anything before the docket	3 A. Once -- after they gave me the new bond.
4 happened?	4 Q. Okay. So they gave -- who gave you the new
5 A. Yeah, I was told it was a bond hearing.	5 bond amount?
6 Q. Okay. And did they say anything more than	6 A. The judge.
7 that?	7 Q. The judge. So you heard her say that?
8 A. No.	8 A. Correct.
9 Q. Okay. What happened -- tell me about the bond	9 Q. Okay. Were you given any paper at the end of
10 hearing?	10 the hearing from someone in the David L. Moss facility?
11 MS. KASDIN: Object to form.	11 A. No, not that I can remember.
12 Q. (By Ms. Moore) You're sitting in the bond --	12 Q. Okay. After the hearing was done, where did
13 in this courtroom and what happens?	13 you go?
14 A. Well, they -- as it was my turn, I was	14 A. Back to the pod.
15 enlisted to come up to the podium and I was -- the judge	15 Q. Okay. How much was your bond after the
16 was talking and I was told to remain quiet.	16 hearing?
17 Q. Who told you to remain quiet?	17 A. About 4,000.
18 A. The judge.	18 Q. Okay. Did you call your bail bondsman back?
19 Q. Judge did. Okay. Do you know who the judge	19 A. No.
20 was?	20 Q. Okay. When was your next court appearance
21 A. No, not by name.	21 after the bail bond hearing?
22 Q. Okay. Were you told you had an attorney	22 A. I don't remember the date.
23 representing you?	23 Q. Do you remember how many days after?
24 A. I was told the Public Defender's Office was	24 A. Had to be a few -- couple days after --
25 there.	25 Q. Okay.
Page 19	
1 Q. Did the judge say anything before you were	1 A. -- the bail hearing.
2 specifically called up to the podium to everyone?	2 Q. Can you tell me about that hearing?
3 A. No, not really.	3 A. It really wasn't too much there. I was -- the
4 Q. Okay.	4 DO came to my cell and told me I need to go to court. I
5 A. No, not that I can remember.	5 was released down to the video hearing. Once I got to
6 Q. Okay. So the judge didn't -- you don't	6 the video court, I was told to fill out for pauper's
7 remember if the judge came on and told the entire	7 affidavit for the Public Defender's Office.
8 courtroom what the purpose of the hearings were?	8 Q. Okay. And you filled that out?
9 A. I don't remember.	9 A. Yes.
10 Q. Okay. Okay. So you're up at the podium and	10 Q. Okay. And were you appointed a public
11 what happens next?	11 defender?
12 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form.	12 A. Not right then and there, no.
13 A. They -- she were -- read off my charges,	13 Q. Well, at the hearing, were you appointed a
14 dismissed two of the charges that I had that was listed	14 public defender?
15 and she was talking back and forth with the DA and the	15 A. No, after I filled out the paperwork, I was
16 Public Defender's Office.	16 told to go back to the pod.
17 Q. (By Ms. Moore) Okay. Could you hear what	17 Q. Okay. Did you see a judge that day?
18 they were saying?	18 A. No.
19 A. No.	19 Q. You didn't stand at the podium?
20 Q. Okay. But you heard her dismiss two of the	20 A. No.
21 charges, right?	21 Q. Okay. Have you been appointed a public
22 A. Correct.	22 defender?
23 Q. Okay. Did she tell you your new bond amount?	23 A. Yes.
24 A. I think so.	24 Q. Okay. Do you know what your current charges
25 Q. Okay. And then your hearing was over?	25 are against you?

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1 A. Yes.		1 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form.	
2 Q. Do they -- have you seen the information filed		2 A. Yes, the state pays, Tulsa Oklahoma.	
3 against you?		3 Q. (By Mr. Moore) Okay. And how do you get	
4 A. No.		4 those payments?	
5 Q. Okay. Do you know which judge oversaw your		5 A. A debit card that -- through the Social	
6 arraignment?		6 Security Office, administration office.	
7 A. The first one or the --		7 Q. Okay. Are you a member of a -- of an Indian	
8 Q. The second one. Not the bond hearing, the		8 tribe?	
9 second.		9 A. No.	
10 A. Oh, no.		10 Q. Okay. Do you have any Indian descent?	
11 Q. Okay. Back at the bond hearing, did the --		11 A. Not that I'm aware of.	
12 did it -- the judge ask you about your ability -- what		12 Q. Okay. After the bond hearing, did you ask	
13 you could afford?		13 anyone to help you with bond?	
14 A. No.		14 A. No.	
15 Q. Did the judge ask you about employment?		15 Q. Did you fill out an application for The Bail	
16 A. No.		16 Project after the bond hearing?	
17 Q. Did the judge ask you about disability?		17 A. Yes.	
18 A. No.		18 Q. Okay. Did you call your sister about your	
19 Q. Okay. Prior to your bond hearing, did you		19 bond?	
20 fill out any paperwork?		20 A. No.	
21 A. No.		21 Q. Did you call one of your aunties?	
22 Q. Do you know who the presiding judge is?		22 A. No.	
23 A. No.		23 Q. You already said you didn't call your bail	
24 Q. Okay. Do you -- did you tell anyone at the		24 bondsman. That's correct?	
25 bond hearing that you couldn't hear?		25 A. Correct.	
	Page 23		Page 25
1 A. (Shakes head in the negative.)		1 Q. Do you know you're asking to intervene in a	
2 Q. You -- do you know why the -- strike that.		2 lawsuit?	
3 Do you know what -- strike that.		3 A. Yes.	
4 Do you know what this lawsuit is about that		4 Q. Okay. And do you know you're asking to	
5 I'm -- that you're testifying in?		5 intervene to be a class representative?	
6 A. Yes.		6 A. Yes.	
7 Q. Okay. What's it about in your words?		7 Q. Do you understand what a class representative	
8 A. Well, from the understanding I have, it's to		8 does?	
9 try to correct some wrongdoing in how they handle things		9 A. A bit.	
10 in David L. Moss far as people coming in with high bonds		10 Q. Okay. Can you tell me what that bit of	
11 and not able to pay.		11 understanding is?	
12 Q. Okay. What does ability to pay mean to you?		12 A. I guess being a voice for the other inmates	
13 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form.		13 that's the same predicament that I was in, currently in.	
14 A. I guess their financial standpoint in life, if		14 Q. Okay. And what do you -- if you were allowed	
15 they're working, that type of thing.		15 to intervene, what do you want out of the lawsuit?	
16 MS. MOORE: Okay. Let's take a five minute		16 A. I don't want anything in particular, just to	
17 break right now. Okay?		17 -- I guess just to be a voice to -- for people that's in	
18 THE WITNESS: Yeah.		18 -- in custody or having problems or not having the	
19 MS. MOORE: Thank you.		19 ability to pay the bond amounts that the jailers give us	
20 (A recess was taken from 9:31 a.m. to		20 or the judges give us.	
21 9:40 a.m.)		21 Q. What do you think the -- what do you think	
22 Q. (By Ms. Moore) Mr. Dennis, we're back on the		22 that should look like if you're given that voice? What	
23 record and you're still under oath. So can you explain		23 -- how do you think the Court should correct?	
24 to me who is paying your disability payments?		24 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form of the	
25 A. Who's paying?		25 question.	

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1 A. I don't know.		1 make no effort to try and pay it?	
2 Q. (By Ms. Moore) You don't know. Okay.		2 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form of the	
3 MS. MOORE: Doug, I'm going to pass the		3 question.	
4 witness to you.		4 A. Because once you're in a pod, it's based off	
5 THE WITNESS: I can't hear you, sir.		5 money. So if you don't have any money to use the phone,	
6 MR. WILSON: Thank you. That's the quietest		6 you don't have any access to the outside world.	
7 I've been in a long time.		7 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) Well, you made phone calls	
8 CROSS EXAMINATION		8 while you were in jail, right?	
9 BY MR. WILSON:		9 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form of the	
10 Q. Mr. Dennis, I represent Sheriff Vic Regalado		10 question.	
11 and the Tulsa County commissioners in this case and I've		11 THE REPORTER: I'm sorry, I didn't hear the	
12 just got a couple -- a couple questions I'd like to ask.		12 answer.	
13 Okay?		13 A. Just in booking.	
14 A. Yes, sir.		14 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) Okay. Did people call you	
15 Q. Do you know Sheriff Vic Regalado? Have you		15 while you were in jail?	
16 ever met him?		16 A. No.	
17 A. No, sir.		17 Q. Did anyone with The Bail Project call you	
18 Q. Okay. And am I correct that he was not		18 while you were in jail?	
19 involved directly in your arrest and detention at the		19 A. No, sir.	
20 jail?		20 Q. And you did not call anyone with The Bail	
21 A. No.		21 Project, correct?	
22 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form of the		22 A. No, sir.	
23 question.		23 Q. Okay. How is it that you and The Bail Project	
24 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) Okay. Did you have any		24 got together in December of 2020?	
25 interactions with the sheriff in your arrest or		25 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form of the	
	Page 27		Page 29
1 detention at the jail?		1 question.	
2 A. I'm not sure.		2 A. I guess have to say through the -- I don't	
3 Q. Did you speak to him?		3 know what that little machine is called in jail,	
4 A. No, no, no, no.		4 Computer email prompter kind of thing.	
5 Q. Okay. Did he speak to you?		5 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) Have you heard --	
6 A. No, sir.		6 A. Kiosk, kiosk.	
7 Q. Okay. You didn't meet him at that time,		7 Q. Referred to it as a kiosk. So did you make a	
8 correct?		8 request through the kiosk?	
9 A. No, sir.		9 A. No.	
10 Q. Okay. Have you ever met any of the county		10 Q. Okay. Did The Bail Project reach out to you	
11 commissioners?		11 through the kiosk?	
12 A. No, sir.		12 A. Yes.	
13 Q. Have any of them spoken to you?		13 Q. Okay. And after they did so, did you speak	
14 A. No, sir.		14 with them by phone?	
15 Q. And have you spoken to any of them?		15 A. No.	
16 A. No, sir.		16 Q. After they did so, did you speak with them by	
17 Q. Okay. Do you know George Foss?		17 video?	
18 A. No, sir.		18 A. Yes.	
19 Q. Okay. When the judge advised you at the bond		19 Q. And did you speak with them about payment of	
20 docket that your bond was now \$4,000, did you take any		20 your bail?	
21 steps to try and pay that bond?		21 A. Yes.	
22 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form of the		22 Q. How many times prior to this had you been in	
23 question.		23 jail?	
24 A. No, sir. I really couldn't.		24 A. I would have to say about -- probably once or	
25 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) Why didn't -- why did you		25 twice.	

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Exhibit 16

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9 (30 - 33)

<p>1 Q. In the previous times that you were in jail, 2 did you bond out of either of those? 3 A. No. 4 Q. Did you make any effort to bond out on those 5 occasions? 6 A. No. 7 Q. Have you ever pled guilty to any crimes? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. What crimes have you pled guilty to? 10 A. My previous charges. Possession with intent 11 was one of them. 12 Q. What are the others? 13 A. Possession charges. 14 Q. And were any of those felonies? 15 A. Yes. 16 MR. WILSON: If you'll give me five minutes, 17 I'll try and go through my notes and wrap it up. Okay? 18 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. 19 (A recess was taken from 9:52 a.m. to 20 9:58 a.m.) 21 A. Okay. Mr. Wilson, I was just -- when you 22 asked me have I been in jail before this. 23 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) Yes, sir. 24 A. I have been in jail several other times due to 25 traffic -- traffic infractions and stuff like that.</p>	Page 30	Page 32
	Page 31	Page 33

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Exhibit 16

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10 (34 - 37)

<p>1 to purchase the cocaine?</p> <p>2 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form of the</p> <p>3 question.</p> <p>4 A. I don't know.</p> <p>5 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) Are you being truthful with</p> <p>6 me, sir?</p> <p>7 A. Yes, I am.</p> <p>8 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form of the</p> <p>9 question.</p> <p>10 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) You don't have any idea how</p> <p>11 you came by the money?</p> <p>12 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form of the</p> <p>13 question.</p> <p>14 A. Sorry.</p> <p>15 MS. KASDIN: Asked and answered. This is</p> <p>16 getting repetitive.</p> <p>17 A. What did you say? I didn't hear what you</p> <p>18 said.</p> <p>19 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) I asked, you don't have any</p> <p>20 idea how you came by the money to purchase the cocaine</p> <p>21 that you already pled guilty to?</p> <p>22 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form of the</p> <p>23 question.</p> <p>24 A. A friend.</p> <p>25 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) So when you're arrested and</p>	<p>Page 34</p> <p>1 that you're telling me you don't have any money to pay</p> <p>2 for use of the telephone, correct?</p> <p>3 A. Correct.</p> <p>4 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form.</p> <p>5 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) Did I understand your</p> <p>6 testimony correct, Mr. Dennis?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay. And your family knew you were in jail</p> <p>9 in December, correct?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay. Did they make any attempt to call you?</p> <p>12 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form?</p> <p>13 A. No.</p> <p>14 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) Do you know why?</p> <p>15 A. No.</p> <p>16 MS. KASDIN: Object. My apologies.</p> <p>17 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) Are you wearing a watch</p> <p>18 today, Mr. Dennis?</p> <p>19 A. Yes.</p> <p>20 Q. Could you hold that up to the camera, please,</p> <p>21 so I can just take a quick picture of it?</p> <p>22 A. (Witness complies.)</p> <p>23 Q. Can you tell me what kind of watch that is?</p> <p>24 A. Invicta.</p> <p>25 Q. How do you spell that?</p>
<p>Page 35</p> <p>1 you're advised that, you know, it will take \$4,000 to</p> <p>2 bail you out of jail, why do you not contact family or</p> <p>3 friends to try and come up with the bond money?</p> <p>4 A. Because I don't --</p> <p>5 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form of the</p> <p>6 question.</p> <p>7 A. To place a phone call, I don't have the money</p> <p>8 to place a phone call.</p> <p>9 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) Well, your -- your family</p> <p>10 knew that you were in jail, right?</p> <p>11 A. Correct.</p> <p>12 MS. KASDIN: I'm going to ask if we could just</p> <p>13 take a short break here, if everyone is okay with that?</p> <p>14 MR. WILSON: Sure. Five minutes?</p> <p>15 MS. KASDIN: That should work. Thank you.</p> <p>16 (A recess was taken from 10:05 a.m. to</p> <p>17 10:12 a.m.)</p> <p>18 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) Mr. Dennis, you recognize</p> <p>19 you're still under oath?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. Okay. I'm -- and I'm not trying to wrestle</p> <p>22 with you about any of these issues. I'm just -- most</p> <p>23 folks -- most folks when they get in jail try and make</p> <p>24 bond, and I'm just trying to figure out why in your</p> <p>25 situation that's not taking place. And I understand</p>	<p>Page 37</p> <p>1 A. I-N-C-T-I-A (sic).</p> <p>2 Q. And how did you get that watch?</p> <p>3 A. It's a present.</p> <p>4 Q. From?</p> <p>5 A. Girlfriend, previous girlfriend.</p> <p>6 Q. And her name?</p> <p>7 A. Camille.</p> <p>8 Q. What's her last name?</p> <p>9 A. Sirls.</p> <p>10 Q. Could you spell it, please?</p> <p>11 A. Sirls with an S.</p> <p>12 Q. G-I-R-L-S?</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. And where does she live?</p> <p>15 A. She stays in Tulsa.</p> <p>16 Q. She have a house here?</p> <p>17 A. She has an apartment.</p> <p>18 Q. Where at?</p> <p>19 A. Town Square.</p> <p>20 Q. Do you have her phone number?</p> <p>21 A. No, I don't. Her number just currently</p> <p>22 changed. I don't have her current number.</p> <p>23 Q. Are you dating her at the moment?</p> <p>24 A. No.</p> <p>25 Q. Are you dating anyone at the moment?</p>

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11 (38 - 41)

	Page 38		Page 40
1 A. No.		1 THE REPORTER: Do you want Mr. Dennis to read	
2 Q. Okay. How did you get to the deposition		2 and sign?	
3 today?		3 MS. KASDIN: Yes.	
4 A. With attorney's help.		4 THE REPORTER: Thank you.	
5 Q. And can you explain physically how that		5 MR. WILSON: Thank you, Mr. Dennis. You have	
6 occurred?		6 a good day.	
7 A. They contacted the Lift program, Ms. Phoebe		7 THE WITNESS: You guys have a good day.	
8 arranged for a ride here for the deposition this		8 MR. WILSON: All righty. Bye-bye.	
9 morning.		9 (Deposition concluded at 10:19 a.m.)	
10 Q. Very good. So there was someone who picked		10	
11 you up and will take you back home; is that right?		11	
12 A. Correct.		12	
13 Q. Okay. Thank you. Tell me about James Pharr?		13	
14 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form of the		14	
15 question.		15	
16 A. The -- my bail bondsman?		16	
17 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) Yes, sir.		17	
18 A. He's a bail bondsman.		18	
19 Q. And how do you know him?		19	
20 A. Through a friend. His stepdaughter. I was		20	
21 friends with his stepdaughter.		21	
22 Q. What's his stepdaughter's name?		22	
23 A. I think -- I don't remember her name. I'm not		23	
24 -- I'm not sure on that name. I haven't spoken to her		24	
25 in awhile. I don't remember her name.		25	
	Page 39		Page 41
1 Q. That's fine. How many times have you spoken		1 JURAT	
2 with Mr. Pharr or Pharr, I'm sorry?		2 FELTZ VS. BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS	
3 A. Just the time I called to see about getting		3 JOB FILE NO. 148999	
4 him for bail.		4 STATE OF OKLAHOMA	
5 Q. And could you tell me about that conversation?		5 SS	
6 What did you ask him?		6 COUNTY OF TULSA	
7 A. Basically asked him what would he need far as		7 I, ASHTON DENNIS, do hereby state under oath	
8 amount of money to help me get out of jail.		8 that I have read the above and foregoing deposition in	
9 Q. And do you recall what he said?		9 its entirety and that the same is a full, true and	
10 A. He said I would need a cosigner and I don't		10 correct transcription of my testimony so given at said	
11 remember the dollar amount that he said that he would		11 time and place, except for the corrections noted.	
12 need. I know it was out of my range, so...		12	
13 Q. Do you think it's fair for the State to		13	
14 require someone to post bail so that they can be out of		14	
15 jail --		15 _____ Signature of Witness	
16 MS. KASDIN: Object --		16	
17 Q. (By Mr. Wilson) -- prior to trial?		17 Subscribed and sworn to before me, the	
18 MS. KASDIN: Object to the form.		18 undersigned Notary Public in and for the State of	
19 A. Yes.		19 Oklahoma by said witness, ASHTON DENNIS, on this	
20 MR. WILSON: I don't have any other questions.		20 _____ day of _____, 2020.	
21 I'll pass the witness. Thank you, sir.		21	
22 MS. MOORE: Phoebe?		22	
23 MS. KASDIN: Nothing from me. Thank you.		23	
24 MS. MOORE: Okay. I'm going to reserve all my		24 NOTARY PUBLIC	
25 further questions and conclude this deposition.		25 MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: _____	

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1 ERRATA SHEET	Page 42
2 FELTZ VS. BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS	
3 DEPOSITION OF ASHTON DENNIS	
4 REPORTED BY: SHANNON S. HARWOOD, CSR, RPR, CRR	
5 DATE OF DEPOSITION TAKEN: JANUARY 25, 2021	
6 JOB FILE NO. 148999	
7 PAGE LINE IS SHOULD BE	
8 _____	
9 _____	
10 _____	
11 _____	
12 _____	
13 _____	
14 _____	
15 _____	
16 _____	
17 _____	
18 _____	
19 _____	
20 _____	
21 _____	
22 _____	
23 _____	
24 _____	
25 _____	
1 CERTIFICATE	Page 43
2	
3 STATE OF OKLAHOMA)	
4 COUNTY OF TULSA)	
5 I, Shannon S. Harwood, a Certified Shorthand	
6 Reporter in and for the State of Oklahoma, do hereby	
7 certify that the foregoing is a true and correct	
8 transcription of my shorthand notes of proceedings had	
9 in Case Number 18-cv-0298-CVE-JFJ heard on the 25th day	
10 of January, 2021, and is only valid with my stamped seal	
11 and my original signature.	
12 I further certify that I am not related to nor	
13 attorney for either of said parties nor otherwise	
14 interested in said action.	
15 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and	
16 seal this 1st day of February, 2021.	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	Shannon S. Harwood, CSR, RPR, CRR
24	
25	

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